UNITED NATIONS **A**

General Assembly

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GENERAL

A/RES/47/122
22 February 1993

Forty-seventh session
Agenda item 97 (b)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/47/678/Add.2)]

47/122. World Conference on Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the goal of the United Nations to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion, as set out in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1/

Recognizing that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are indivisible and interrelated and that the promotion and protection of one category of rights should never exempt or excuse States from the promotion and protection of another,

Recalling its resolution 45/155 of 18 December 1990, in which it decided, inter alia, to convene at a high level a World Conference on Human Rights in 1993, and its resolution 46/116 of 17 December 1991,

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/30 of 5 March 1991, 2/

Convinced that the holding of a world conference on human rights could make a significant contribution to the effectiveness of the actions of the United Nations in the promotion and protection of human rights,

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1/ Resolution 217 A (III).

2/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 2 (E/1991/22), chap. II, sect. A.

Recognizing the urgency of adopting a draft agenda for the World Conference on Human Rights before the final session of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the reports of the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Human Rights on the work of its second 3/ and third 4/ sessions;

2. Expresses its appreciation to Governments, the bodies and organs of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations for their contributions to the preparatory process;

3. Approves the draft rules of procedure for the World Conference on Human Rights, as recommended by the Preparatory Committee at its second and third sessions, with the exception of rule 15 (e);

4. Decides that the distribution of the twenty-nine positions of vice-president of the Conference should be in accordance with the established criteria of the General Assembly based on equitable geographical distribution;

5. Approves the recommendation made by the Preparatory Committee at its third session regarding the participation of non-governmental organizations in regional meetings related to the preparatory process; 5/

6. Also approves the provisional agenda for the Conference , as annexed to the present resolution, on the understanding that participants can raise issues of interest to them under the appropriate agenda item at the fourth session of the Preparatory Committee and at the Conference for possible inclusion in the final text;

7. Decides, in accordance with the decisions adopted by the Preparatory Committee:

(a) (i) That the Preparatory Committee shall meet for its fourth session at Geneva, for a period of two weeks in April 1993;

(ii) That the Preparatory Committee shall take up the question of the final outcome of the Conference at its fourth session, taking into consideration, inter alia, the preparatory work and conclusions of the regional meetings to be held at Tunis, San José and Bangkok;

(iii) That the Secretary-General shall give the Conference and the preparatory process thereto the widest possible publicity and ensure full coordination of public information activities in the area of human rights within the United Nations system;

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 24 (A/47/24).

4/ A/47/24/Add.1.

5/ Ibid., annex II, decision PC.3/2.

(b) To renew its invitation for contributions of extrabudgetary resources to meet the costs of the participation of representatives of the least developed countries in the preparatory meetings, including regional meetings, and in the Conference itself, and to request the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts in this regard;

8. Renews its request to Governments, the specialized agencies, other international organizations, regional organizations and non-governmental organizations concerned with human rights or development to participate actively in the preparatory process and in the Conference itself;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session on the outcome of the Conference, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

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ANNEX

Provisional agenda for the World Conference on Human Rights

1. Opening of the Conference.

2. Election of the President.

3. Adoption of the rules of procedure.

4. Election of other officers of the Conference.

5. Appointment of the Credentials Committee.

6. Establishment of committees and working groups.

7. Adoption of the agenda.

8. Commemoration of the International Year for the World's Indigenous People.

9. General debate on the progress made in the field of human rights since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and on the identification of obstacles to further progress in this area and ways in which they can be overcome.

10. Consideration of the relationship between development, democracy and the universal enjoyment of all human rights, keeping in view the interrelationship and indivisibility of economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights.

11. Consideration of contemporary trends in and new challenges to the full realization of all human rights of women and men, including those of persons belonging to vulnerable groups.

12. Recommendations for:

(a) Strengthening international cooperation in the field of human rights in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with international human rights instruments;

(b) Ensuring the universality, objectivity and non-selectivity of the consideration of human rights issues;

(c) Enhancing the effectiveness of United Nations activities and mechanisms;

(d) Securing the necessary financial and other resources for United Nations activities in the area of human rights.

13. Adoption of the final documents and report of the Conference.

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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/47/678/Add.2)]

47/123. Right to development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration on the Right to Development, 1/ which it proclaimed at its forty-first session,

Recalling its resolutions 45/97 of 14 December 1990 and 46/123 of 17 December 1991, and those of the Commission on Human Rights relating to the right to development, and taking note of Commission resolution 1992/13 of 21 February 1992, 2/

Recalling also the report on the Global Consultation on the Realization of the Right to Development as a Human Right, 3/

Bearing in mind the principles proclaimed in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development of 14 June 1992, 4/

Reiterating the importance of the right to development for all countries, in particular the developing countries,

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1/ Resolution 41/128, annex.

2/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 2 (E/1992/22), chap. II, sect. A.

3/ E/CN.4/1990/9/Rev.1.

4/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

/...

Mindful that the Commission on Human Rights entered a new phase in its consideration of this matter, which is directed towards the implementation and further enhancement of the right to development,

Reaffirming the need for an evaluation mechanism so as to ensure the promotion, encouragement and reinforcement of the principles contained in the Declaration on the Right to Development,

Recalling its resolution 45/155 of 18 December 1990, in which it decided, inter alia, that one of the objectives of the World Conference on Human Rights to be held in 1993 would be to examine the relationship between development and the enjoyment by everyone of economic, social and cultural rights as well as civil and political rights, recognizing the importance of creating the conditions whereby everyone may enjoy these rights as set out in the International Covenants on Human Rights, 5/

Recalling also that, in order to promote development, equal attention and urgent consideration should be given to the implementation, promotion and protection of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights,

Having considered the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General 6/ prepared pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/15 of 22 February 1991 7/ and General Assembly resolution 46/123,

1. Reaffirms the importance of the right to development for all countries, in particular the developing countries;

2. Takes note with interest of the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-ninth session concrete proposals on the effective implementation and promotion of the Declaration on the Right to Development, taking into account the views expressed on the issue at the forty-eighth session of the Commission as well as any further comments and suggestions that may be submitted on the basis of paragraph 3 of Commission resolution 1992/13;

4. Reiterates the need for appropriate ways and means, such as an evaluation mechanism, to ensure the promotion, encouragement and reinforcement of the principles contained in the Declaration;

5. Requests the Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Development and the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat to continue coordination of the various activities with regard to the implementation of the Declaration;

5/ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

6/ E/CN.4/1992/10.

7/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 2 (E/1991/22), chap. II, sect. A.

6. Urges all relevant bodies of the United Nations system, particularly the specialized agencies, when planning their programmes of activities, to take due account of the Declaration and to make efforts to contribute to its application;

7. Also urges the regional commissions and regional intergovernmental organizations to convene meetings of governmental experts and representative non-governmental and grass-roots organizations for the purpose of seeking agreements for the implementation of the Declaration through international cooperation;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to inform the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-ninth session and the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session of the activities of the organizations, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system for the implementation of the Declaration;

9. Calls upon the Commission on Human Rights to continue to make proposals to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, on the future course of action on the question, in particular on practical measures for the implementation and enhancement of the Declaration, taking into account the conclusions and recommendations of the Global Consultation on the Realization of the Right to Development as a Human Right and replies contained in the report of the Secretary-General prepared in accordance with the relevant decisions of the Commission and the General Assembly;

10. Calls upon the World Conference on Human Rights and the Preparatory Committee for the Conference to take fully into account the Declaration in examining the relationship between economic and social development, democracy and the enjoyment of human rights and the indivisibility and interdependency of economic, social, cultural and political rights, and the fact that economic and social progress facilitates the growing trend towards democracy and the promotion and protection of human rights;

11. Decides to consider this question at its forty-eighth session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/47/678/Add.2)]

47/124. United Nations year for tolerance

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Charter of the United Nations affirms in its preamble that to practise tolerance is one of the principles to be applied to attain the ends pursued by the United Nations of preventing war and maintaining peace,

Recalling also that one of the purposes of the United Nations as set forth in the Charter is the achievement of international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Mindful of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1/ and of the International Covenants on Human Rights, 2/

Taking note with appreciation of resolution 5.6 of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, concerning the proclamation of 1995 as the United Nations year for tolerance, 3/

1/ Resolution 217 A (III).

2/ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

3/ See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Records of the General Conference, Twenty-sixth Session, vol. 1, Resolutions.

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Taking note also of Economic and Social Council decision 1992/267 of 30 July 1992 and of the note by the Secretary-General, 4/

Bearing in mind its decision 35/424 of 5 December 1980 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 concerning guidelines for international years and anniversaries,

1. Welcomes the initiative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in seeking to have 1995 proclaimed the United Nations year for tolerance;

2. Requests the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to prepare, in cooperation with other interested organizations, his suggestions on the observance of the United Nations year for tolerance and to submit them to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council;

3. Invites the Economic and Social Council to consider at its next session the question of proclaiming 1995 the United Nations year for tolerance and to transmit a recommendation to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session;

4. Encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to prepare, in accordance with General Conference resolution 5.6, a declaration on tolerance;

5. Decides to consider the question at its forty-eighth session.

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4/ A/47/445.

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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/47/687/Add.2)]

47/125. Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 32/127 of 16 December 1977 and all its subsequent resolutions concerning regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights, in particular resolutions 45/167 and 45/168 of 18 December 1990,

Recalling also that, in its resolution 45/167, the General Assembly invited the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its forty-seventh session a report on the state of regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights and to include therein the results of action taken in pursuance of that resolution,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/52 of 3 March 1992 on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights, 1/

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights concerning advisory services in the field of human rights, including its most recent resolution on that subject, 1992/80 of 5 March 1992, 1/

1/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 2 (E/1992/22),chap. II, sect. A.

Recalling Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1989/50 of 7 March 1989, 2/ 1990/71 of 7 March 1990, 3/ 1991/28 of 5 March 1991 4/ and taking note of Commission resolution 1992/40 of 28 February 1992 1/ concerning regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asian and Pacific region,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General, 5/

Noting with satisfaction the progress achieved so far in the promotion and protection of human rights at the regional level under the auspices of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and the regional intergovernmental organizations,

Reaffirming that regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights may make a major contribution to the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms and that the exchange of information and experience in this field among the regions, within the United Nations system, may be improved,

Bearing in mind that regional instruments should complement the universally accepted human rights standards and that the persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies noted during their third meeting, held at Geneva from 1 to 5 October 1990, that certain inconsistencies between provisions of international instruments and those of regional instruments might raise difficulties with regard to their implementation, 6/

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General; 5/

2. Welcomes the continuing cooperation and assistance of the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat in the further strengthening of the existing regional arrangements and regional machinery for the promotion and protection of human rights, particularly in regard to advisory services and technical assistance, public information and education, with a view to exchanging any information and experience in the field of human rights;

2/ Ibid., 1989, Supplement No. 2 (E/1989/20), chap. II, sect. A.

3/ Ibid., 1990, Supplement No. 2 and corrigendum (E/1990/22 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

4/ Ibid., 1991, Supplement No. 2 (E/1991/22), chap. II, sect. A.

5/ A/47/502.

6/ See A/45/636, annex.

3. Welcomes also in that respect the close cooperation given by the Centre for Human Rights in the organization of regional and subregional training courses or workshops in the field of human rights, including, most recently, those that took place at Barcelona, Brasilia, Cairo, Caracas, Paris, San Remo, Santiago, Teheran, Valetta and Windhoek, aiming at creating greater understanding of the promotion and protection of human rights issues in the regions and at improving procedures and examining the various systems for the promotion and protection of the universally accepted human rights standards;

4. Stresses the importance of the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights, and renews its appeal to all Governments to consider making use of the possibilities offered by the United Nations, under this programme, of organizing information and/or training courses at the national level for government personnel on the application of international human rights standards and the experience of relevant international bodies;

5. Invites States in areas where regional arrangements in the field of human rights do not yet exist to consider agreements with a view to the establishment within their respective regions of suitable regional machinery for the promotion and protection of human rights;

6. Requests the Secretary-General, as foreseen in the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, 7/ to continue to strengthen exchanges between the United Nations and regional intergovernmental organizations dealing with human rights, and welcomes, in this connection, the fact that the Centre for Human Rights will continue to organize national, regional and subregional workshops and training courses for government officials engaged in the administration of justice and in the implementation of the international human rights instruments and that more countries in all regions of the world are expected to develop forms of cooperation and assistance with the Centre, in keeping with their specific needs;

7. Invites the organizers of regional meetings convened in preparation for the World Conference on Human Rights to be held in 1993 to promote further ratification of and accession to United Nations human rights treaties and the implementation of universally accepted human rights standards;

8. Welcomes the recommendation of the persons chairing or representing the United Nations human rights treaty bodies concerning a possible meeting, during the World Conference on Human Rights, of the persons chairing or representing the United Nations human rights treaty bodies and those chairing or representing each of the principal regional organizations and institutions in the field of human rights, 8/ and requests the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Human Rights to consider the holding of such a meeting;

7/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/45/6/Rev.1), vol. II.

8/ See A/47/628, para. 80.

9. Requests the Commission on Human Rights to continue to pay special attention to the most appropriate ways of assisting, at their request, countries of the different regions under the programme of advisory services and to make, where necessary, the relevant recommendations;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session a report on the state of regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights and to include therein the results of action taken in pursuance of the present resolution;

11. Decides to consider this question further at its forty-ninth session.

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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/47/678/Add.2)]

47/126. Plight of street children

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Convention on the Rights of the Child 1/ as a major contribution to the protection of the rights of all children,

Recalling also the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s, 2/ adopted at the World Summit for Children on 30 September 1990, the World Declaration on Education for All 3/ adopted by the World Conference on Education for All on 9 March 1990 and chapter 25 of Agenda 21 4/ adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, on 14 June 1992,

Reaffirming that children are a particularly vulnerable section of society whose rights require special protection and that children living under

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1/ Resolution 44/25, annex.

2/ A/45/625, annex.

3/ Final Report of the World Conference on Education for All: Meeting Basic Learning Needs, Jomtien, Thailand, 5-9 March 1990, Inter-Agency Commission (UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF, World Bank) for the World Conference on Education for All, New York, 1990, appendix 1.

4/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26), chap I, resolution 1, annex II.

/...

especially difficult circumstances, such as street children, deserve special attention, protection and assistance from their families and communities and as part of national efforts and international cooperation,

Profoundly concerned that the killing of street children and violence against them threaten the most fundamental right of all,the right to life,

Recognizing that all children have the right to health, shelter and education, to an adequate standard of living and to freedom from violence and harassment,

Deeply concerned about the growing number of street children world wide and the squalid conditions in which these children are often forced to live,

Recognizing the responsibility of Governments to investigate all cases of offences against children and to punish offenders,

Recognizing also that legislation per se is not enough to prevent violation of human rights, including those of street children, and that Governments should implement their laws and complement legislative measures with effective action, inter alia, in the fields of law enforcement and the administration of justice,

Welcoming the efforts made by countries to address the question of street children,

Welcoming also the publicity given to, and the increased awareness of, the plight of street children, and the achievements of non-governmental organizations in promoting the rights of these children and in providing practical assistance to improve their situation, and expressing its appreciation for their continued efforts,

Welcoming further the valuable work of the United Nations Children's Fund and its National Committees in reducing the suffering of street children,

Noting with appreciation the important work carried out in this field by the United Nations, in particular the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme,

Bearing in mind the diverse causes of the emergence and marginalization of street children, including poverty, rural-to-urban migration, unemployment, broken families, intolerance and exploitation, and that such causes are often aggravated and their solution made more difficult by serious socio-economic difficulties,

Reaffirming the importance of international cooperation for improving the living conditions of children in every country,

Recognizing that the prevention and solution of certain aspects of this phenomenon could also be facilitated in the context of economic and social development,

1. Expresses grave concern at the growing number of incidents world wide and at reports of street children being involved in and affected by serious crime, drug abuse, violence and prostitution;

2. Urges Governments to continue actively to seek comprehensive solutions to tackle the problems of street children and to take measures to restore their full participation in society and to provide, inter alia, adequate nutrition, shelter, health care and education;

3. Strongly urges Governments to respect fundamental human rights, particularly the right to life, and to take urgent measures to prevent the killing of street children and to combat violence and torture against street children;

4. Emphasizes that strict compliance with the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child 1/ constitutes a significant step towards solving the problems of street children;

5. Calls upon all States that have not done so to become parties to the Convention as a matter of priority;

6. Calls upon the international community to support, through effective international cooperation, the efforts of States to improve the situation of street children, and encourages States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, in preparing their reports to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, to bear this problem in mind and to consider requesting, or indicating their need for, technical advice and assistance for initiatives aimed at improving the situation of street children, in accordance with article 45 of the Convention;

7. Invites the Committee on the Rights of the Child to consider the possibility of a general comment on street children;

8. Recommends that the Committee on the Rights of the Child and other relevant treaty-monitoring bodies bear this growing problem in mind when examining reports from States parties;

9. Invites Governments, United Nations bodies and organizations and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to cooperate among themselves and to ensure greater awareness and more effective action to solve the problem of street children by, among other measures, supporting development projects that can have a positive impact on the situation of street children;

10. Calls upon special rapporteurs, special representatives and working groups of the Commission on Human Rights and of the Subcommission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, within their mandates, to pay particular attention to the plight of street children;

11. Invites the Commission on Human Rights to examine this problem at its forty-ninth session;

12. Decides to consider the question further at its forty-eighth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

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